



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

May 29, 2012

Bill Auby  
Bureau of Land Management  
New Mexico State Office  
301 Dinosaur Trail  
Santa Fe, NM 87508

Re: Rio Puerco Uranium Mine

Dear Mr. Auby:

Enclosed is the Superfund Site Strategy Recommendation (SSSR) drafted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 for the Rio Puerco Uranium Mine on the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands in New Mexico. The SSSR summarizes information and data compiled for the mine site.

Although the Rio Puerco Uranium Mine was not addressed in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the EPA Region 6 and the BLM New Mexico State Office regarding certain uranium mine properties, EPA is deferring investigation and remediation of releases/threats of releases of hazardous substances to the BLM through the exercise of its CERCLA or other authorities. The EPA requests progress updates on any actions taken at the Rio Puerco Uranium Mine site.

We look forward to continuing to work with the BLM on the very important issue of legacy uranium mining.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Lisa Marie Price", is written over a horizontal line.

Lisa Marie Price  
Grants Mining District Coordinator  
EPA Region 6

Enclosure

cc: Phyllis Bustamante, NMED  
John Pfeil, NMEMNRD